(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date 6 May 2004 (06.05.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2004/038345 A2

(51) International Patent Classification7: G01F 11/00

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/EP2003/011703

(22) International Filing Date: 22 October 2003 (22.10.2003)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

60/421,047

25 October 2002 (25.10.2002)

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): NESTEC S.A. [CH/CH]; 55, Av. Nestlé, CH-1800 Vevey (CH).

(72) Inventors; and

- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): ASKMAN, Lars [SE/US]; 290-21 Hawthorne Drive, Aurora, OH 44202 (US). LUDWICK, Richard, E. [US/US]; 2192 Pebblecreek Drive, Suite 205, Twinsburg, OH 44087 (US).
- (74) Agent: BESSIERE, Philippe; Nestec S.A., Avenue Nestlé 55, CH-1800 Vevey (CH).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH,

GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

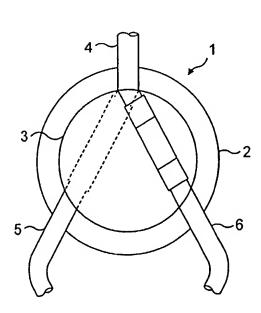
(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METERING DEVICE



(57) Abstract: A device for accurately metering food. The device includes an outer part and an inner metering part having a dosing chamber and a piston block slideably mounted therein. The housing outer part has three passageways, and the dosing chamber is configured, dimensioned, and positioned to alternately connect two of the three passageways of the outer part. The inner metering part is configured, dimensioned and positioned for rotation within the outer part. The outer housing part and the inner metering part are mounted concentrically with the inner metering part and the inner metering part has only one degree of liberty in rotation around a central axis of rotation.